



On the Green—A publication for Gallaudet faculty, teachers, and staff  
Gallaudet University • 800 Florida Avenue NE, Washington, DC 20002-3695

April 30, 2004  
Vol. 34, No. 13

Photo by Raymond Clark



**Last September, Gallaudet's Delta Sigma Phi fraternity officially adopted a one-mile stretch of Interstate 395 in the Crystal City area of Northern Virginia. The fraternity signed a two-year agreement with the Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) to remove trash and other debris from that section of I-395 at least four times a year. "I've seen many signs where**

**businesses and other groups, including fraternities and sororities, have signed up to help keep the highways clean," said Raymond Clark, a member of Delta Sigma Phi. "I asked VDOT to be sure our sign stated that we are a Gallaudet University fraternity, since I noticed that most signs just give the fraternity's name, not the college or university where they belong. Pictured with the Adopt a Highway sign are Delta Sigma Phi members (from left): Miguel Centro, Kyle Emard, Travis Hayes, Aaron Waheed, John Lopez, Tyler Miller, and Evan Levenson.**

## H Street Playhouse extends free invitation to neighbors, Gallaudet students

The H Street Playhouse, through the "Free Theater on H Street Program," has created an incentive to draw patrons to the theater. Residents within a five-block radius of the theater—including Gallaudet University students—are invited to attend productions free of charge through grants funded by the Fannie Mae and Capitol Hill foundations.

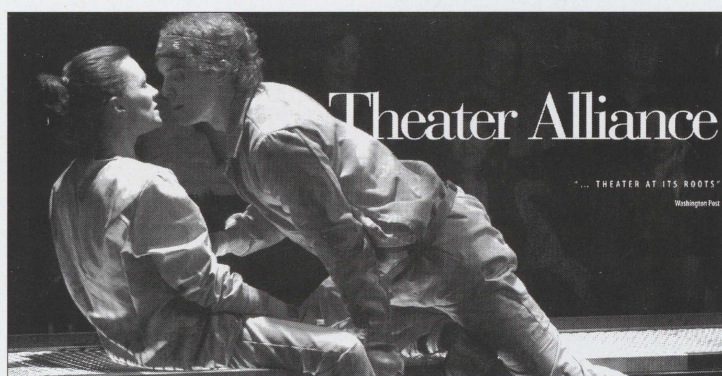
"We want to reach out to the Gallaudet University community and have their participation [and other local residents] at our performances," said Jeremy Skidmore, H Street Playhouse artistic director.

The Theater Alliance, the resident company of the H Street Playhouse, is working in partnership with area theaters, such as the African Continuum Theatre Company, the Capital Renaissance Theatre and the Essential Theatre Company. The Alliance is working to help revitalize the H Street corridor with the "Free Theater" drive to generate local interest in the theater.

Tickets are restricted to a first-come, first-served basis, at a maximum of 25 total free tickets per performance. For ticket information and upcoming performance show times, call 1-800-494-8497 or go online at [www.theateralliance.com](http://www.theateralliance.com).

Currently playing is *Boy Gets Girl*, by acclaimed playwright Rebecca Gilman. The H Street Playhouse characterizes the performance as "...an acute observation on a very modern nightmare, the story explores the sexual and political fine line between what is romance and what is obsession. *Time* magazine calls it, "the finest, most disturbing American play in years."

*Boy Gets Girl* is scheduled to run at the H Street Playhouse April 22 to May 23, Thursday through Saturdays at 8 p.m. and Saturday and Sunday matinees at 2 p.m. For more information, contact Skidmore at [jereskids@hotmail.com](mailto:jereskids@hotmail.com).



Theater Alliance is offering free tickets to residents within a five-block radius of the H Street Playhouse, which includes Gallaudet students. The theater is located at 1365 H Street, NE.



The dramatic increase in the number of deaf people who receive cochlear implants, and rapid advances in the field of genetics—including the identification of about 400 types of genetic deafness—present ethical issues that have serious implications for the future of the deaf community. The topic was addressed in a lively and informative discussion led by Dr. Irene Leigh (left) on April 19 in the Kellogg Conference Hotel's Swindells Auditorium. Leigh, a professor in the Psychology Department and chair of the Council on Graduate Education, is the Distinguished Faculty Member for the 2003-04 academic year. She is the co-author of a book, *Children with Cochlear Implants: Ethics and Choices*, with Dr. John Christiansen, a professor in the Sociology Department and a former Distinguished Faculty Member. Leigh stressed the importance of the deaf community being proactive in making its opinions known to the medical community and to society in general. "We can't change the world," said Leigh, "but we can influence it." After her presentation, Leigh led a panel discussion on controversial topics such as: Should the deaf community get involved in discussing ethical issues in genetics, and what could happen if it doesn't? What are your reactions to the possibility that a deaf person with the Connexin 26 mutation will only marry someone with the same genetic situation to guarantee a deaf child? And, Will the controversy over genetic screening for the "perfect baby" eventually become accepted by society? At the close of the discussion, President Jordan, who holds a Ph.D. in psychology and is a former chair of the Psychology Department, praised the openness and importance of the discussion. Pictured with Leigh are panelists (from left): faculty members Dr. Dennis Galvan, professor, and Dr. Tammy Weiner, associate professor, both from the Department of Psychology, and students Rachel Smith, undergraduate psychology major, Shilpa Hanumantha, clinical psychology student, and Emily Aschenbrenner, school psychology student.

## Inveterate traveler bequeaths \$1 million to Gallaudet

Anne "Pixie" Chiquoine, a longtime resident of California and a vibrant woman with a zest for traveling, passed away in December of 2002, bequeathing \$1.1 million of her estate to Gallaudet.

Several members of Chiquoine's family, including her late mother, Helen Chiquoine, had a hearing loss, although none of them enrolled at Gallaudet. Nevertheless, she was always interested in learning about deafness, and in the mid-1980s visited Gallaudet. As a result, she established the Anne M. Chiquoine and Helen P. Chiquoine Memorial Scholarship Fund, which is awarded to students based on financial need and scholastic achievement. Chiquoine's bequest will be used to enhance the scholarship fund.

*Gallaudet Today* magazine (Winter 1985, Vol. 15, No. 2) interviewed Anne Chiquoine about her relationship with Gallaudet and her mother. In that interview, she said, "My mother and I were so close and always had so much fun. I was devoted to her and wanted to make sure that she was never left out of anything. I wanted to shield her from the impatience of other people who didn't want to put forth a little bit of extra effort to look for communication. As a result, I wanted to

do something that would benefit deaf and hard of hearing people and honor my mother at the same time."

Catherine Sweet-Windham, executive director of Institutional Advancement, communicated with Anne Chiquoine often. "Pixie was like a family member," she said. "She would send postcards and call me on the phone. When the Deaf President Now movement was happening in 1988, she followed the week-long event with zeal. She was a very sincere person and we were so sad when she passed away. The University is deeply grateful for her bequest, and I know students will benefit from her generosity."

Gallaudet psychology professor Robert "Skip" Williams said he had the honor of meeting Chiquoine several years ago while vacationing in California. "I took her out to a nice restaurant in the wine country and we had a wonderful time," Dr. Williams recalled. "She was a delightful, spirited, intelligent woman with a great sense of humor. She told me that Gallaudet had a special place in her heart, and now we have a special place in our hearts for Pixie."





## Administration & Finance

### Protected forms on the web

Employees may have noticed that some of the financial forms, work request forms, and payroll information on the Gallaudet web pages are now requiring them to log in with their user name and PeopleSoft or e-mail password. What a pain! Yes, it slows things down a bit, but it's necessary.

Fraud and misrepresentation via the Internet are rampant. Sometimes the perpetrators of Internet abuse are just out to have fun and see what they can "get away with." But, there are others who are out to steal and harm an individual or an institution—like Gallaudet.

Administration and Finance carefully considered what parts of its web pages needed to be protected and then tried to make the log-in as simple as possible. By clicking onto a portion of an A & F web page that is protected, the screen prompt the individual to type: **campus** your user name, and then ask for the PeopleSoft or Gallaudet e-mail password. It is important to remember to type **campus** before the user name. The next time you come across a protected page, don't panic, just follow the instructions and you'll be in.

### Something new!

Watch for a new feature in the A & F column: Ask GIS! This will provide a chance to ask questions about interpreting. Not sure what all Gallaudet's certifications mean? Not sure what to do when meeting with someone who has never worked with an interpreter before? Ever had an experience that you wish had been handled differently but never talked to an interpreter about it? Now you can! Watch for upcoming campus-wide e-mails with more details.

## CAMPUS CALENDAR

### April

**30**—Face painting, part of "Erase the Hate" events, SUB Alcove, 11 a.m.-3 p.m.

### May

**3**—Spring semester classes end; Last day for undergraduate consortium registration; Last day for graduate students to withdraw with WP/WF grades and to change incomplete grades from previous semester; University Faculty Senate Meeting, Kellogg Conference Hotel, Board Room, 3:30-6:30 p.m.

**4**—Study Day

**5-8**—Spring semester final exams

**6**—Child Development Center 20-year Celebration, Kendall School Cafeteria, 5:30-8:30 p.m.

**8**—Interpretation Workshop: "Language and Gender," Kellogg Conference Hotel, Room 3100, 10 a.m.-3 p.m.

**9**—Dorms close

**10**—Grades due; University Faculty Meeting, Kellogg Conference Hotel, Board Room 4-6:30 p.m.

**13-14**—Board of Trustees meeting, Kellogg Conference Hotel, Board Room

**13**—Graduate Awards and Hooding Ceremony, Elstad Auditorium, 4 p.m.

**14**—Commencement and Reception, Field House (overflow: SUB 1011), 1:30-5 p.m.



Several members of the English Language Institute Students' Organization, the International Student Club, the Office for International Programs and Services staff, and others joined together to carry the banner for the National Cherry Blossom Festival Parade on April 3. Pictured (from left) are: Hongyou Xu (OIPS student assistant), Le Toudjida Allara, Jasmin Simpson (ISC president), Yvonne Nkera, Patricia Garcia, Adriana Palacio (OIPS student assistant) Johan Verstraete, Anita Mazzuca, Wei Wang, Shwepmwa Vwarji, Olatokunbo Ogunbayu, Haeryung Kim, Yukiko Sakamoto, Kok Ciang, Pantong Dashwet, and Oladimeji Okeniyi.

### Kendall announces Summer Sports Camps

Sports-minded deaf and hard of hearing boys and girls ages 8 to 13 will have the opportunity to polish their skills in flag football, volleyball, and basketball at the Kendall Summer Sports Camps.

Camps for boys flag football and girls volleyball will take place June 21-25, and camps for boys and girls basketball will be held June 28 to July 1. The daily schedule for all camps is 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., with an early drop-off of 8 a.m., and a late pick-up of 4 p.m.

The fees, which include lunch and a T-shirt, are \$45 per session for Kendall students and \$70 per session for non-Kendall students. For more information, contact Steven Doleac, Clerc Center recreation specialist, x5992, or e-mail [steven.doleac@gallaudet.edu](mailto:steven.doleac@gallaudet.edu).



This year's Fantastic First Year Students, those who distinguish themselves by having a combined average GPA of 3.76, are shown with Provost Jane Fernandes and President Jordan at an April 7 luncheon held in the students' honor in 'Ole Jim.' Pictured are, from left: (front row) Joyce Pierce, Charity Sanders, Michelle Sherbondy, Jeshal Patel, Andres Piedrahita, Na Su, Janelle White, Emily Erlandson, Mary Cregan, Jessica Swecker, Florinda Africa, (back row) Silvia Herdicka, Shannon Swank, Pia Marie Paulone, Drew Robarge, John Slone, Dr. Fernandes, Dr. Jordan, Noah Bechman, Joshua Slone, Oyamo Caracci, Jeffrey Peterson, and Megan Matovich. (Not pictured are Akilah English, Richard Latini, and Ashley Locke).

Photo by Sung Park



## ASK AUNT SOPHIE

Aunt Sophie,

I am so fed up with the new paper towel dispensers in the campus rest rooms. They don't work. The old dispensers let us take a single towel at a time, but these useless things have a big roll of paper that gets stuck so that it's really difficult to dry your hands. They never removed the old dispensers so I say we go back to them! What's your opinion?

Wet and Mad

Dear W 'n M,

How can you possibly be distraught over towel dispensers when we are faced with the horrific invasion of our fair city and surrounding 'burbs by the 17-year cicada swarm? Do you realize that in about two week's time this campus will be crawling with the critters? As we walk to our offices from parking lot or bus stop, the disgusting little bugs will climb up our legs and fly into our hair. In droves they will amble across our pavements where they will be crushed and smushed as we make our way to and from the Bistro and Snack Bar. Finally, their creepy little carcasses will pile up beneath our open windows and, exposed to the hot sun, emit a stink strong enough to kill a water buffalo. For six weeks we will be living in cicada hell! So, forget about towel dispensers, already; help Auntie figure out how to make a cicada survival suit.



## ON THE GREEN

Kendall Green  
Gallaudet University  
800 Florida Avenue, NE  
Washington, DC 20002-3695

Published bi-weekly for the staff, teachers, and faculty of Gallaudet University by the Office of Public Relations.

### Publications Manager

Roz Prickett

### Editor & Photo Editor

Todd Byrd

### Writer

Adam Schafer

### Contributors

Mercy Coogan

Ralph Fernandez

Darlene Prickett

Shondra Dickson

### Design/Production

Graphic Design & Production

### Printing

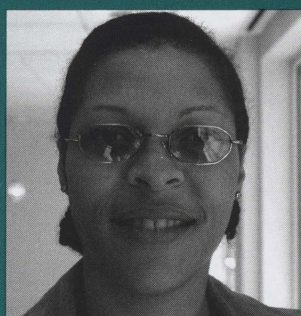
BelJean Printing

Gallaudet University is an equal opportunity employer/educational institution and does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, sex, national origin, religion, age, hearing status, disability, covered veteran status, marital status, personal appearance, sexual orientation, family responsibilities, matriculation, political affiliation, source of income, place of business or residence, pregnancy, childbirth, or any other unlawful basis.

98-342M

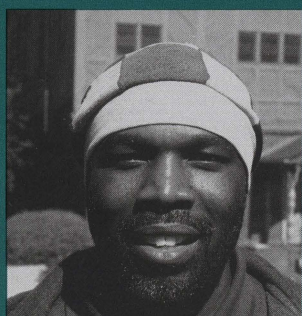
## ROVING REPORTER

### What celebrity do you think you look like?



**Carmenlita Cothron**, accounting clerk, Student Accounts

*I've been told I look like Alicia Keys when my hair is braided, and I think I look like Jasmine Guy when my hair is straight.*



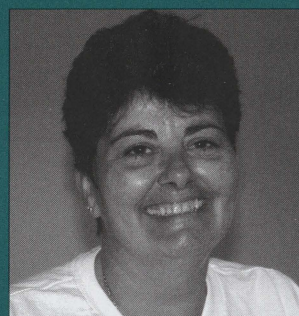
**Kent Loggins**, facilities support staff assistant, Distribution Center

*I've been told I favor Charlie Murphy, Eddie Murphy's brother, but I think he is ugly and I am funnier than he is.*



**Adam Schafer**, writer, Office of Public Relations

*I think I look like Mel Gibson, but my wife said I look like Gilbert Blythe from Anne of Green Gables.*



**Lynne Carter**, postal clerk/team leader, Postal Services

*Sarah Evelyn-Cofield said I looked like Liberace when my hair was long and curled.*



## NOTES FROM PERSONNEL

## Service awards in March:

## Five years:

**Ethel Harrison**, assistant teacher, Child Development Center; **Leslie Smith**, custodian, Custodial Services; **Robert McNeil**, low vision specialist, Office for Students with Disabilities; **Elice Patterson**, transfer credit/readmission specialist, Registrar; **Steffan Savoy**, groundskeeper, Grounds Services

## Ten years:

**Chester Parsons**, lead carpenter; **Kenneth Buckley**, lead finisher, Maintenance Services

## Fifteen years:

**Vanessa Slade-Bratcher**, executive secretary, Office for Advocacy, President's Office; **Donna Thomas**, coordinator, Reprographic Services

## Twenty years:

**Michael Delauder**, supervisor, HVAC and Mechanical, Maintenance Services

## Twenty-five years:

**Cathryn Carroll**, managing editor, Clerc Center

## Thirty years:

**Joanne Jones**, manager, employer/employee relations, Human Resources

## New employees hired in March:

**Leslie Brewer**, dispatcher/customer service representative, **John King**, public safety officer, **Daniel Lewis**, public safety officer, **Laria Wells-Bello**, administrative secretary II, Department of Public Safety; **Patricia Lowry**, residential educator, Clerc Center

## Promotions, transfer reclassifications in March:

**Marti Edelman**, operations coordinator, Center for ASL Literacy; **Leslie Page**, diversity fellow, President's Office


## Retirements in March:

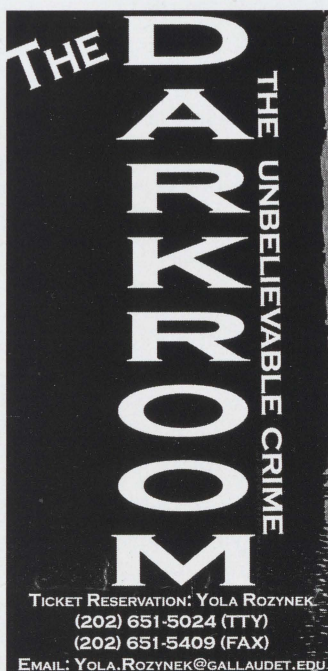
**Martha Benbow**, Custodial Services; **John Dunn**, Construction Services

## Theatre Malz Performing Arts presents 'The Darkroom'

A photojournalist discovers clues leading to a vampire club, where the undead are scheming to blend into the world of the living. Can the photojournalist stop them from destroying mankind?

This is the plot behind *The Darkroom*, a supernatural mystery tale that will be performed on MSSD's Theatre Malz stage May 6, 7, and 8.

Theatre Malz Performing Arts' 2004 spring play was written by Monique Holt and is directed by Jonathan Kessel. Show times are 10 a.m. and 8 p.m. on May 6, 4 p.m. and 8 p.m. on May 7, and 8 p.m. on May 8. The general admission cost is \$5. For ticket reservations, call Yola Rozynek, x5024 (TTY) or x5409 (Fax), or e-mail yola.rozynek@gallaudet.edu. 



## CLERC CENTER HAPPENINGS

## Technology Fair shares knowledge across generations

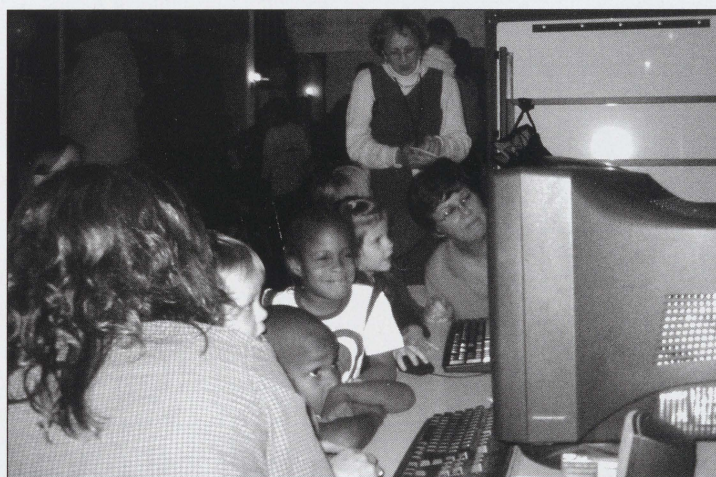


Photo by Tim Worthylake

KDES Pre-K students check out their computer work at the Technology Fair.

By Susan M. Flanigan

Parents often say, "Things certainly have changed since I went to school." That's definitely true of the new technologies used in the classroom.

In order to help bridge the understanding gap, the KDES Home School Association and the Clerc Center's Information Systems and Computer Support (ISCS) unit hosted a Technology Fair night March 18 to provide opportunities for families to experience technology as the students experience it every day.

During the event, students and teachers showcased various technologies at mini-workshops such as "Internet 101 for Parents" and "An Introduction to Digital Video." Students and teachers also showcased their creative work. For example, Pre-K students demonstrated their Early Learning toolkit using computer-based Smart Board

technology and Team 1/2/3 students demonstrated how they use Virtual Reality Education for Assisted Learning to learn about the use of money. In addition, there was an introduction to digital cameras, software evaluation, and a planet tour using Web Quest.

The main hallway at KDES was filled with fascinating exhibits of software, hardware, pagers, assistive devices used by deaf and hard of hearing people, and a Sorenson video relay booth where people could try out the visual relay system where the caller places the call with the assistance of an interpreter on screen.


"The Tech Fair was indeed a success," said ISCS director Philip Mackall. "We had to kick people out so we could go home! This was a true community effort of KDES and MSSD teachers, staff, and the ISCS staff." Plans are to make the Tech Fair an annual event. 

Photo by Chun Louie

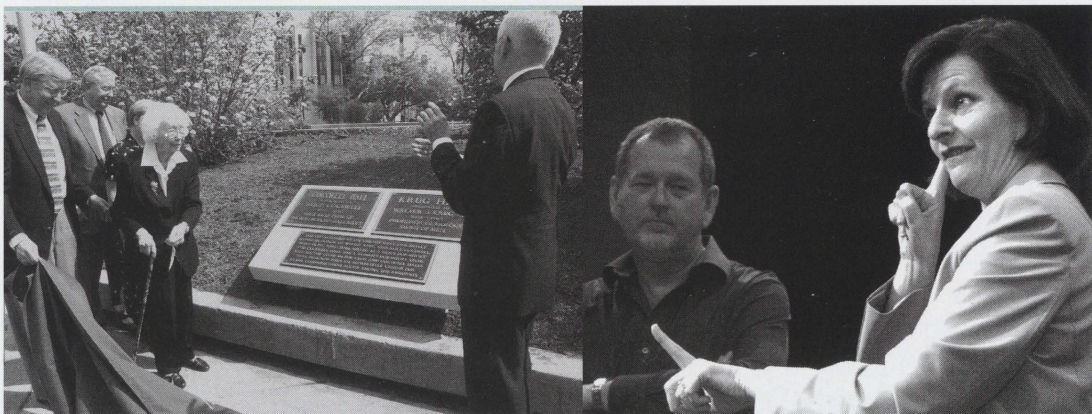


Photo by Chun Louie

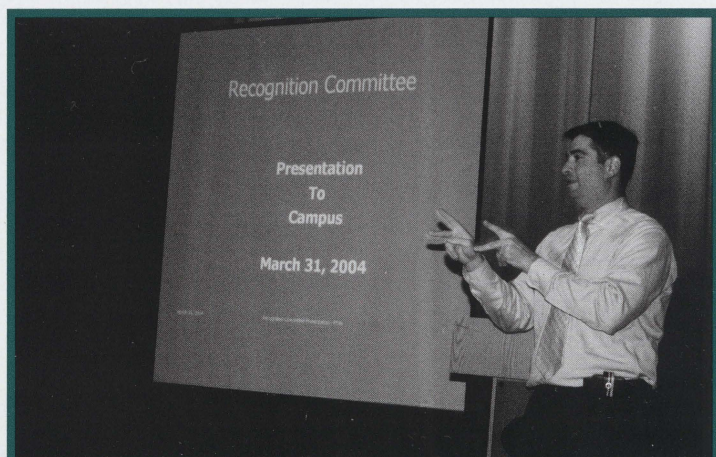
Photo by Chun Louie



The annual commemorative ceremony to celebrate the signing of Gallaudet's charter was a particularly festive occasion this year, marking 140 years since President Abraham Lincoln penned the charter creating the University. A number of special events took place during the April 16 and 17 celebration, including the following: (Top left) The President's Office formally honored Walter Krug, former dean of men and chair of the Biology Department, and Alice Cogswell, first female pupil of Thomas Hopkins Gallaudet, with a memorial at Ballard West and North residential halls, which until 2001 bore the names of Krug and Cogswell. Pictured unveiling the memorial with President Jordan are (from left) his sons Walter and Warren Krug, and his widow Adele Krug. (Top right) Dr. Tom Humphries and Dr. Carol Padden give a joint presentation in Ely Auditorium entitled "The Past as Future". (Center) Receiving recognition at the 35th annual Charter Day Luncheon and Awards Day Program were (from left, with President Jordan and Master of Ceremonies Warren Snipe): Gary Klingensmith (LCCF Amos Kendall Award), Franklin Torres, Jr. (GUAA Outstanding Young Alumnus Award), Dr. Tom Humphries and Dr. Carol Padden (LCCF Laurent Clerc Award), Dr. Jordan, Frances



Marzolf and Michael Marzolf (GUAA Pauline "Polly" Peikoff "Service to Others" Award), Herbert "Bert" Pickell III (LCCF Alice Cogswell Award), and Snipe. (Bottom) Representatives of the University, the Clerc Center, and the Gallaudet University Alumni Association gather in the Student Academic Center to unveil replicas of the University's 1864 charter and the charter signed by President Franklin Pierce in 1857 establishing what is now the Kendall elementary school. Included in the photo are (from left): Provost Jane Fernandes, MSSD student Seth Gore, GUAA Vice President Alyce Lentz, Student Body Government President Lindsay Darnall, and President Jordan.



Fred Weiner, special assistant to the president for planning and chair of the University's Recognition Committee, gives an update on the committee's progress over the past year at a March 31 Town Hall meeting in Ely Auditorium. The eight-member committee, representing constituencies from across the campus, was appointed last year by President Jordan to recognize deserving individuals and groups with plaques, markers, monuments and sculptures, nameplates, and titles in connection with Gallaudet buildings, outdoor areas, and interior spaces. Weiner reviewed the guidelines developed by the committee for approving the various forms of recognition, explained the process involved in obtaining recognition, and presented a list of recognition requests to date that have either been approved, disapproved, or are pending approval. Examples of recent projects that have been approved are the Krug and Cogswell memorial (see photo, this page) and a bust of Andrew Foster, the University's first black, deaf graduate. Any person or organization that is interested in having an individual or group recognized on Kendall Green may contact Weiner directly at x5030. They should consider the nature of the recognition, the cost involved—private funding is usually required, and identify the sponsor of the recognition.



## After 31 years, Gallaudet 'more than a workplace, it's a family'



Julia Bishop-Pitt

Thirty-one years ago, Julia Bishop-Pitt responded to a classified advertisement in *The Washington Post* seeking a secretary in Gallaudet's Office of the President. She got the job, little knowing at the time that Gallaudet would become far more than a 9 to 5 routine. For Bishop-Pitt, the campus has been a place for personal growth and where close bonds have been formed.

Bishop-Pitt gained distinction at Gallaudet from the start, becoming the first African American woman in the University's history to work in the President's Office. She spent her entire career in that office, working for four presidents, steadily gaining responsibility—administrative secretary to presidents Edward Merrill Jr. and Lloyd Johns, office services supervisor under the administration of President Jerry Lee, managing support staff in the President's Office, assistant to Special Assistant to the President for Advocacy Lindsay Dunn, who was hired when Dr. I. King Jordan became president, and finally, director of Equal Employment Opportunity and Affirmative Action.

Bishop-Pitt's current position has been a perfect match for her. During the various administrations she worked for, "I became keenly interested in how employee issues were resolved, and I became famil-

iar with employee/employer law," said Bishop-Pitt. On the urging of President Jordan, Dunn, and former Special Assistant to the President for Institutional Affairs Bette Martin, she was encouraged to get more training in the field by pursuing a college degree. Higher education had been Bishop-Pitt's goal earlier in her life; she attended D.C. Teachers College (now the University of the District of Columbia) in the 1960s, but her enthusiasm about a teaching career waned and she withdrew after her junior year.

Her supervisors' persistence finally got to her. "Sometimes I'd get so upset when they'd push me to finish my degree!" said Bishop-Pitt. "But at their urging I went back, and once I got into it, it was so much fun!" She enrolled at Columbia Union College in Takoma Park, Md., and graduated 18 months later at the age of 50, proving that age is not a factor in going back to college. In fact, she was named president of her class by her peers, and gave the class address at commencement. She credits her degree in organizational management with giving her a solid background in human resources, conflict resolution, and other employment-related issues.

The University's image as a good neighbor to the Near Northeast community has also been enhanced by Bishop-Pitt. She served as the liaison between the President's Office and the Gallaudet Community Relations Council for many years. The experience, she said, "has been extremely rewarding." Over the years she made it her job to reach out to the community "and let them know that Gallaudet is here."

Gallaudet has always been a nurturing place for Bishop-Pitt. "The thing that's stood out is that each of the presidents had the confidence in me to recognize abilities

that I never recognized in myself." But, she said, it is Dr. Jordan—who started his career at Gallaudet the same year as Bishop-Pitt—and his wife, Linda Jordan, who have proven to be the most encouraging to her.

The friends she has made at Gallaudet over the years are too many to mention, but in addition to the Jordans, two individuals she singled out were Dunn, who she called "a confidant, mentor, and friend," and Vanessa Slade-Bratcher, executive secretary in the Office of Advocacy, who she said "has been like a daughter."

Bishop-Pitt's sentiments are mutual with these individuals. Dr. Jordan said that after becoming president, "I was able to work more closely with Julia and can say that she was a joy to work with. I know that Gallaudet will miss her very much, and I will personally miss her a great deal." Dunn said, "Not only was Julia a colleague I deeply respected and admired, but she was a big sister any little brother would die to have ... I am deeply grateful for having the honor to know her both professionally and personally." Slade-Bratcher said, "Julia is like a mother to me. I will truly miss her bright smiling face and quick wit."

Bishop-Pitt's official retirement date is June 30. Until then, she is in her office twice a week to work on employment mediation and affirmative action issues with members of the campus community who know her well and "who are comfortable with me." Leaving Gallaudet, "is the hardest decision I've ever had to make. I love Gallaudet ... It's much more than a workplace, it's a family." She also extends her appreciation to Vice President for Administration and Finance Paul Kelly, who recently assumed responsibility for EEO, Affirmative Action, and Community Relations. "It has been an absolute pleasure to work with Paul," she said.

But life moves on, and Bishop-Pitt feels that it's time for a transition. Her future plans are not firm, but she is considering several options: Extensive traveling and, although a proud Washingtonian, an eventual relocation to the Carolinas to be near her sister, who recently retired; pursuing her love for learning by obtaining her master's and Ph.D. degrees; and working on a contract basis with the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission as a certified mediator on workplace issues. One project is certain, she said—writing a book "highlighting all the good memories I've had at Gallaudet." **G**

## STUDENT AFFAIRS *Exposé*

### Gallaudet observes National Erase the Hate Day with a week of activities celebrating diversity

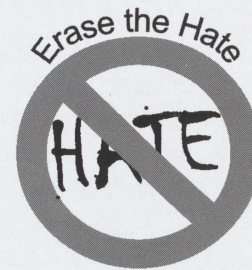
by KP Perkins

Some may not be aware that in 1997 the United States Senate unanimously passed a bipartisan resolution designating April 30 as "National Erase the Hate and Eliminate Racism Day." The resolution called on then President Bill Clinton to issue a proclamation calling on all citizens to make eliminating racism and hate crimes a priority.

Unfortunately, Gallaudet has not been immune to expressions of hate and intolerance. In early April, an alert was distributed to the community by the Department of Public Safety, and a statement sent out by the Provost, noting that anti-gay and anti-African American incidents had taken place. Unsurprisingly, students and the administration are concerned. However, this is not the first time such activities have taken place on the campus. Other groups have been targeted in the past.

It is important to emphasize that this is not an issue that affects only the groups that are singled out. Issues of injustice and intolerance affect us all. Admittedly, it is probably just one or a few perpetrators who act out in such negative ways, but the question is, how do we as a community respond? Unfortunately, silence and apathy are often interpreted as acquiescence. If nothing happens in a timely manner, agitators may feel emboldened to continue and even accelerate their harassment of others.

Since April 1998, Multicultural Student Programs (MSP) has offered programs to honor the spirit and intent of the Erase the Hate campaign. MSP has invited speakers and sponsored activities to encourage respect and understanding of diversity. This year, MSP once again hosted a series of activities during the week of April 27 to 30 to raise attention to the issue and to provide the campus community



Gallaudet University \* April 30

with an opportunity to respond constructively. The office was proud to present some of these events with co-sponsorship from the Office of Judicial Affairs.

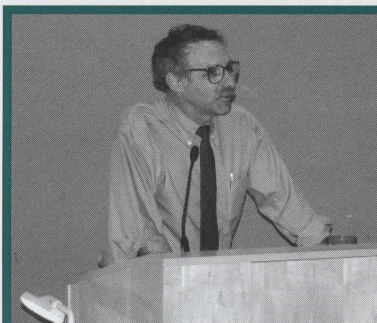
The highlight of the week's activities was a riveting presentation on April 29 by ex-racist Tom "TJ" Leyden. Leyden was a neo-Nazi white supremacist activist and recruiter for 15 years before turning away from the hatred that defined his life for so long. He worked for the Simon Wiesenthal Center teaching on the culture of hate and the importance of fighting against it. He was invited by President Clinton to be a featured speaker at the White House Conference on Hate, and he has trained at the Pentagon, the FBI, military bases, and for numerous law enforcement agencies. Leyden has spoken to more than 650,000 students, and testified against individuals on trial for hate crimes. Although he regularly receives death threats, Leyden is a committed advocate for the rights of all people.

The multicultural student assistants created a bulletin board for the month of April featuring this year's Erase the Hate campaign logo. Temporary tattoos bearing the logo were ordered so that members of the community could make their anti-hate stand in a visible way.

While it is improbable that these few activities can eradicate all vestiges of prejudice in our community, we can use this campaign as an opportunity to speak out and take a stand. The MSP Office staff would like to encourage everyone to think of ways they can work to make our community a better, safer, and more respectful place for all of us. **G**

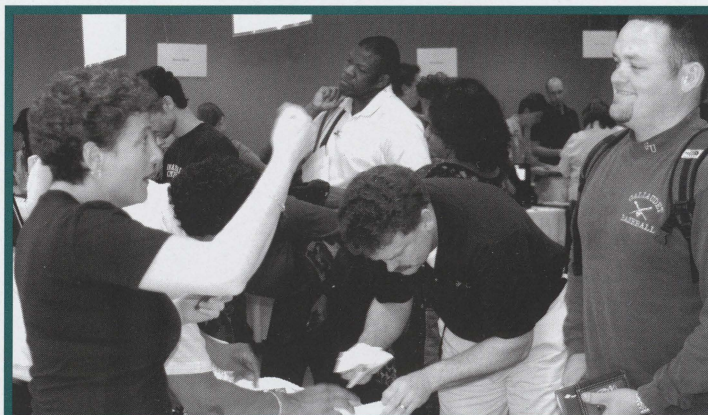
(KP Perkins is coordinator of Multicultural Student Programs.)

Marcia Schweitzer (left), field placement specialist in the Social Work Department, is congratulated for five years of service to the University by Barbara White, department chair.



*Newsweek* and *The Washington Post* columnist Robert Samuelson was a guest presenter at an April 14 "Honors Globalization Seminar" co-taught by Dr. Thomas Baldrige, associate professor in the Department of Business, and Dr. John Christiansen, a professor in the Department of Sociology. The campus was invited to Samuelson's lecture, which covered the causes and consequences of globalization since the 1850's, and ended with an informal question and answer session. Samuelson also stayed to have dinner and chat about a variety of issues with the Honors seminar faculty and students.

quences of globalization since the 1850's, and ended with an informal question and answer session. Samuelson also stayed to have dinner and chat about a variety of issues with the Honors seminar faculty and students.



The class of 2004 mingled at GradFest 2004 in the SUB Multipurpose Room March 25 to finalize plans for the May 14 commencement exercises. Prospective graduates had the chance to purchase accessories, select graduation robes, pay off student debts, and make plans for further education. Students thronged the room, searching for that perfect memento, visiting with friends, and completing plans for the ceremony. Don Preston (right), a business administration major, talks with Sherry Duhon (left), assistant director in the Office of Alumni Relations, about future studies in business at Gallaudet University.